BY MR. C. SUBBA RAO (Chitaldrug).—

Q.—26. Will the Government be pleased to state:—

(*a*) What is the exact amount of contribution that is being recovered annually from the raiyats holding lands under Bhimasandra Channel in the Chitaldrug Taluk?

(*b*) What is the expenditure incurred for the pay of sowdies?

(*c*) Are the Government aware that the voluntary contribution amount paid by the raiyats for repairing the channels is being utilised for disbursement of the pay of the establishment?

(*d*) Is there any provision in the rules allowing this?

SECRETARY TO GOVERNMENT, PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT.—

A.—26. (*a*) The amount that is realised by levy of acreage cess on the atchkat below Bhimasandra Tank and channels as furnished by the Revenue Department is Rs. 1,309 a year.

(*b*) Rs. 648 (pay of six sowdies at Rs. 9 each per mensem).

(*c*) and (*d*). Under G. O. No. R. 5135-46—L. R. 493-16-22, dated the 3rd November 1912, the amount referred to is utilised not only for repairs, but also for payment of sowdies' wages.

Supplementary Questions.

Mr. C. Subba Rao.—

The question (*c*) has not been directly answered. I asked whether it has come to the notice of the Government that the voluntary contributions are utilised for disbursing the pay of the establishment.

Dewan.—

The raiyats themselves offered to pay contribution for the repair of the channels. Some one should be on the spot to see that the work is attended to and Government thought that sowdies would be useful and their pay had necessarily to be met from the contributions. If

the raiyats themselves do not want them and they themselves would do the work now done by the sowdies, the Government will have no objection. The result would perhaps be that no one will do their work in the village. If the raiyats now want to cancel that arrangement, you can bring a representation to that effect.

BY MESSRS. S. VIRABHADRAPPA AND SATI HALAPPA (Chitaldrug Taluk) and CHANNABASAPPA (Davangere Taluk).—

Q.—27. Will the Government be pleased to state:—

(*a*) Whether their attention has been called to the controversy raging between the parties that have arisen among the Virasaiva community in the matter of the succession to the Balehonnur Peeta ?

(*b*) In the circumstances, have Government taken the responsibility in this religious matter and appointed a Committee to select a suitable candidate ?

(*c*) If such a Committee has been formed, at whose suggestion and in what manner were its members selected ?

(*d*) Have the Government received any complaints that members selected for the Committee are not acceptable and that they all belong to a single party ?

(*e*) Have Government ascertained the cause for this keen controversy ?

BY MR. CHANNABASAPPA (Davangere Taluk).—

(*f*) Is it a fact that Mr. Chandregowda of Aralaguppe did not consent to become a member of the Committee and resigned the membership, and if so, what reasons have been assigned for the resignation ?

SECRETARY TO GOVERNMENT, REVENUE DEPARTMENT.—

A.—27. (*a*), (*b*) and (*c*) The attention of the members is invited to G. O. No. 1822-31—Muz. 526-21-48, dated 17th June 1925. Since the order was issued, Mr. Chandregowda who was one of the members appointed by Government having resigned, his resignation has been accepted and three other members added to the Committee—Messrs. Siddaramappa Pavte (Hubli), Chickachennanajappa (Kolar) and Pandit Virupaksha Sastry (Tiptur).